



**Safe Haven
for Donkeys**

Summer 2023

NEWSLETTER



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Dear Friends.

Firstly, we would like to start with some amazing news. We are so proud to tell you that this year, we will hopefully be extending our work into Egypt. Thanks to the support of our donors, we're really excited that we may be able to improve the welfare of working donkeys in the brick kilns; bringing the same love and care we've given the donkeys of Israel and the West Bank to those poor animals working so hard in Egypt. We will bring you more news as soon as we have it.

In the meantime, there is also a lot going on in the West Bank – read on to discover how, with your help, we have been able to set up a third mobile clinic in the Jordan Valley area, meaning we can help even more donkeys in remote areas of the country.

We also have a new arrival at our sanctuary in Israel – welcome little Nader, our absolutely adorable foal.

Of course, none of this vital work could happen without you. Thank you for being part of the Safe Haven team whether it be by donations of time, items or money and we hope you will stay with us for many years to come.

Warmest regards,



Melanie



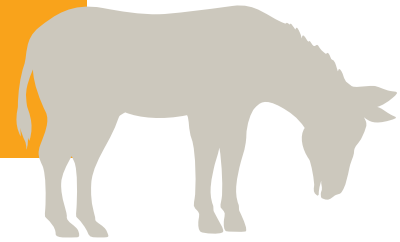
Fiona



Wendy



Diary from Israel



Smart Coat

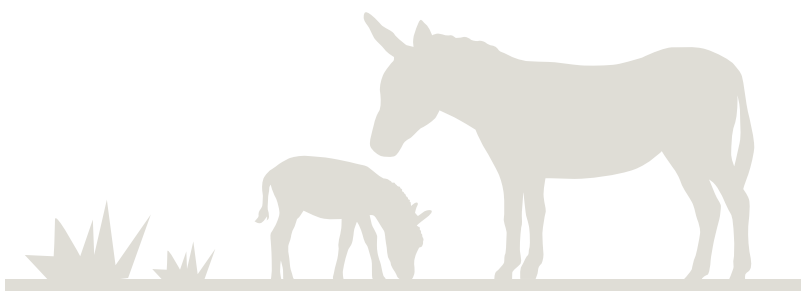
Our CEO Andy Foxcroft and volunteer veterinary advisor Anna Harrison have just returned from another visit to Israel. They took with them a new coat for Burnie – doesn't he look smart – as well as a huge amount of your donated items which they have passed to Dr Rakan for use in the West Bank. They both loved spending time checking over the herd - you can read a report from Anna on one of our very special donkeys over the page.



Welcome Nader!

The highlight of their visit was meeting our latest resident – welcome to the world little Nader!

Nader was born at our sanctuary in March to Hope, who was herself born at the sanctuary 5 years ago when her pregnant mother was rescued from the side of the road. Of course, we don't allow our donkeys to breed but as you may remember from a previous newsletter, a newly arrived male donkey got in with Hope before the vet arrived to castrate him and little Nader is the result. We will make sure this never happens again but all the staff and visitors absolutely adore this beautiful foal.



Saying Goodbye

Jordy

As well as a “hello”, we have also had a very sad “goodbye” since our last newsletter. Jordy was one of our earliest residents, having been with us since 2001, when he was rescued from a political demonstration where his ears and tail were brutally chopped off. Although he was understandably terrified of people when he arrived, over the years he grew into one of the friendliest donkeys at the sanctuary. Donkeys use their tails to flick off flies and as Jordy had no tail, the other donkeys used to stand in a circle around him and use theirs to make sure the flies didn’t bother him. Sadly, Jordy suffered a terrible bout of colic and although our sanctuary vet Dr Eliran battled to save him, in the end the kindest thing was to put him peacefully to sleep. Rest in peace Jordy, you will never be forgotten.



Tzvika

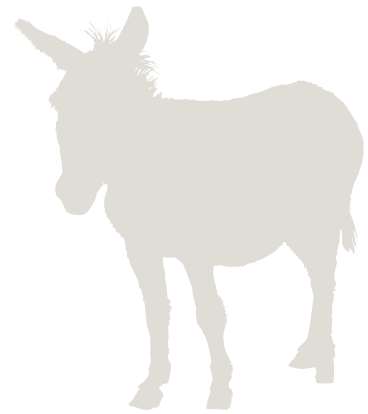
We have also lost another member of our donkey family – Tzvika had been with us for just over 17 years but sadly, due to his teeth getting very bad, he was no longer able to chew and digest his food. He was losing weight and even specially mashed food didn’t help him so eventually, the decision was taken to end his suffering.



Did you know? It takes 320 tons of hay a year to feed the donkeys at our sanctuary and each ton is about £238. That’s over £76,000 just to feed the donkeys. Your donations literally put food in our donkeys’ mouths – thank you so much for your support.



Dominic the indomitable



Dominic before treatment



Dominic after treatment



Dr Anna Harrison, our volunteer veterinary advisor writes...

1 July 2022 could have been just another day at Safe Haven, but it certainly wasn't. A desperate call about a young donkey colt in a bad way. Of course, the fabulous team rushed out but nothing prepared them for the sight of a thin, shivering youngster that veered between looking terrified and, even worse, just shutting down as if he'd given up.

Safely back at the sanctuary the vet was called and a deep bed with water and food easily available created for this little chap. The vet found his mouth was full of painful ulcers. To this day we do not know if it was some nasty disease process or maliciousness. Had someone

tried to poison him? The problem here was that the pain was stopping him eating however hungry he was – even drinking was difficult. The vet did all he could with pain killers, antibiotics and intravenous fluids but where vetting stops vital nursing begins

This is what Tarek, Moussa and Ali excel at. They simply would not give up on this fragile soul, hand feeding with warm liquid feeds and warm water to drink. And they named him Dominic – he deserved a name even if he wasn't going to make it. It was touch and go for a few days despite day and night nursing. But on day 6 Dominic stood up on his own and the team cheered.



Severely underweight and small for his age (about 2) this brave wee chap started to blossom. Once out of his hospital bed area and declared free from any disease that could affect the herd, he was gradually introduced to the special needs donkey group in the hospital area. Donkeys being donkeys welcomed him quietly and gently and he slowly gained confidence and quickly gained an appetite!

Come the autumn it was time for him to experience paddock life but integration into the main herd required care as he would be joining fit and healthy donkeys, bordering on boisterous on a good day! And Dominic had known nothing but being cocooned in the special care unit with the oldies and receiving so much one-to-one care. He was carefully observed in the first few days, and he did look a bit overwhelmed for a while, but this was a rite of passage we felt he had to go through and the happy ending would be if he stopped following the staff around, start talking to the donkeys and maybe find a special friend. This was a tough time for the team who just wanted to go and be with him when he would wait by the gate on his own, but Dominic got a bit braver with each passing day.

And now Dominic is in with the in crowd – putting weight on steadily, even a little bit taller and so much

more confident. He still loves people but is very happy mingling with his donkey chums and often to be seen mooching around with that king of the paddock group, our dear Burnie, so he chooses his friends wisely. Truly indomitable!

And so to the evening when Andy and I could sit on the decking area outside the cabins. We look out on a calm sea of donkeys at the far end of the paddock, enjoying the coolness of the evening after a strenuous day. Earlier we had walked in the neighbouring plantation and gathered fallen branches. Now was the time to scatter these in the paddock and the donkeys literally ran towards them, eagerly grabbing the branches, sometimes two donkeys playing tug of war with one branch and others starting to gnaw at them. Donkeys are natural browsers rather than grazers and love nothing more than to pick leaves, twigs and berries off trees and shrubs they come across in their natural habitat. This is a simple, free way to satisfy their behavioural need to browse and gnaw.

What a day! Our donkey family had had lots of excitement and it was wonderfully satisfying to bring something a little different to their day. Sanctuary life may be safe and secure but it should never be boring!

We may not be able to change the world for all donkeys, but this donkey's world has been transformed thanks to Safe Haven (and that, supporters, is each and every one of you!)

Adopt a donkey

Adopt a donkey today and we will send you an adoption certificate, record card and photo of your chosen friend, complete with a small cuddly donkey to remind you of your new friend.

Adoption is just £36 a year (or £3 a month) and you can adopt for yourself or a friend – donkey adoptions make the ideal gift for birthdays, anniversaries or any other special occasion.

Your gift will help pay for the food and medical care of your chosen donkey, as well as support all the donkeys we help at the sanctuary, Nablus clinic and our mobile clinic. Below are just three of

our donkeys – but you can choose from our wider donkey family by visiting our website at www.safehaven4donkeys.org/adopt.

We care for around 200 donkeys at our Sanctuary in Israel and rescue centre in Nablus. We will update you with news about a selection of our donkeys in every newsletter but sadly we're not currently able to send individual updates.

** If we are unable to supply a cuddly donkey, we will provide an alternative gift*

Thank you for your support.

Adopt me!



Name: **Nader**
Age: **3 months**
Born: **March 2023**

Adorable **Nader** was born at the sanctuary in March 2023 to Hope. His conception was something of an accident but he is adored by everyone at the sanctuary.

Adopt me!



Name: **Hope**
Age: **5 years**
Born: **September 2017**

Hope was born at the sanctuary on 23 December 2017 to Rita who was pregnant when she was rescued from the side of a busy highway. Sadly, Rita has since passed away but Hope is now bonded with a male donkey of about her own age, Yalon, and of course with her foal Nader.

Adopt me!

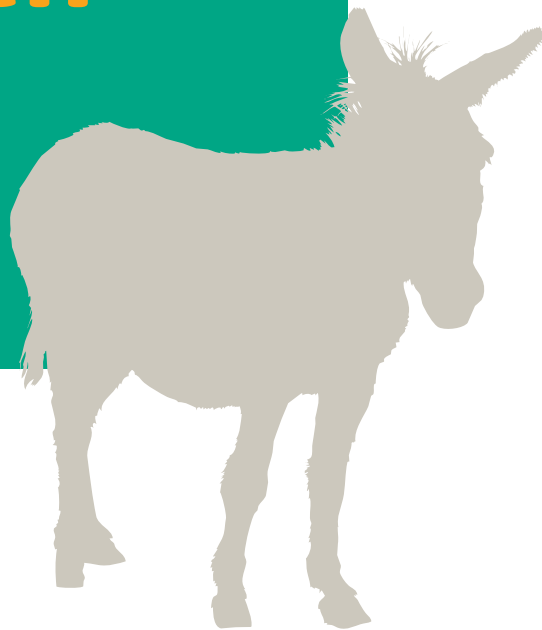


Name: **Yalon**
Age: **4 years**
Rescued: **October 2018**

Yalon Yalon is Hope's close companion and although they are temporarily separated while Nader is growing up, as soon as Nader is old enough they will be reunited in our main paddock. In the meantime, they are in enclosures next to one another so that they can at least remain in contact.

Adopt a donkey today by visiting www.safehaven4donkeys.org/adopt or give us a call on 01444 470136 or 01444 470132 and give a donkey the love and care they deserve.

Dr Rakan's Palestinian donkey stories



The new ultrasound in use

Greetings to all our wonderful supporters!

We are so happy that spring is now here and it will soon be summer – the weather is now warm and sunny after a cold and wet start to the year. The donkeys prefer the fine weather and so do the team and I!

After a period of unrest in the West Bank, particularly in the Nablus area which sometimes made it difficult for Nour, Wael and I to travel with the mobile clinic, I am pleased to say that as I write, things seem to be settling down again and we are back out on the road, helping as many animals as we can and providing support and advice to the owners who rely on them.

One very important and special piece of equipment that we use so very much is our new ultrasound machine and I would like to say a special thank you to Gerry and Shirley Robinson for donating the funds for this machine. It took some time to buy it and then have it shipped to the West Bank but finally it is here and being put to very good use to investigate wounds and tissues and to see whether mares might be pregnant.

As you know, in a previous newsletter we mentioned that we are looking for a new site for the 30 or so donkeys which currently live at the Nablus clinic. The



Dr Omran treats a working donkey



Dr Eyed chats with a young donkey owner

clinic was only ever meant as a hospital and really isn't big enough for so many donkeys, they need more space to run around and play. We think we may finally have found a site near the city of Jenin – I will update you in the next newsletter. Of course, they will have a dedicated person to take care of them and I will visit regularly as I am often in Jenin with the mobile clinic. We also hope to use the new site as a base to allow us to hold training sessions for children, donkey owners and veterinary students. Our dream is that one day, animal welfare will have improved so much in the West Bank that we will no longer be needed. Until that time, we will never stop doing all we can to help the donkeys.

And finally, I have some great news...

As you know, many parts of the West Bank are rural and much of our work is in remote towns and villages, sometimes even Bedouin camps.

It is difficult for Nour, Wael and I to cover the whole country alone and as you know, in 2021, we expanded our mobile services to include a second clinic run by Dr Eyed Nasser with farrier Ahmad. This clinic covers the southern part of the West Bank – including the cities of Hebron, Bethlehem and the surrounding area.

As well as running the clinics in Nablus, I also cover the northern part of the West Bank with the main mobile clinic, but there are also many donkeys in the Jordan Valley area of the West Bank needing help.

I am delighted to be able to let you know that thanks entirely to your support, we are now able to run a third mobile clinic, led by Dr Omran and farrier Ali. After coming to Nablus for some specialist training with our team, Dr Omran and Ali are now hard at work helping dozens of donkeys, mules and horses (and even the occasional camel, sheep or goat) every week.

Of course, three mobile clinics means three lots of equipment and we are so very grateful to everyone who supported us last year by contributing towards the items our clinics need and to all those who donate towards the charity's work generally. Thank you all for helping to change animals' lives!

Ways you can help...

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Gift Aid

The Gift Aid scheme allows charities to reclaim tax on donations received from supporters who have paid sufficient income or capital gains tax during the year to cover the amount we would be reclaiming from HMRC. If you are a taxpayer and have not already completed a Gift Aid declaration, please complete the form with this newsletter so we can reclaim even more to help the donkeys!

If you would like more information on the Gift Aid scheme before signing up, just call Wendy on 01444 470136.

Remember, if you are no longer a tax payer, please let Wendy know.



Regular donations

We already have over 1,000 supporters who give to us regularly and these payments are vital in helping us to plan for the future of the charity. If you can spare a regular amount each month, please visit www.safehaven4donkeys.org/donate or call 01444 470136. You can now also set up a regular gift via your credit/debit card or Paypal by visiting the donate page on our website.



Recycling – please read

We are sad to say that due to the retirement of the owner, Stamps N All has now ceased trading. Please do not send any further items for recycling. Thank you so much to all who have sent stamps and other items over the years – if we find another company which will take these, we will let you know.



Home Collection Boxes

Ask us for one of our home collection boxes. Collect up all your loose change for the donkeys! Just call Melanie on 01444 470132 or e-mail melanie@safehaven4donkeys.org



Ebay

Sell an item via popular online bidding site Ebay and you can donate the profit (or a percentage) towards our work.



Easy Fundraising

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations with Easy Fundraising? Simply go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk to sign up, choose us as your favourite cause and get shopping!



Thinking of making your Will?

Gifts in Wills are vital in helping to secure the future of the donkeys at our sanctuary. If you are thinking of leaving Safe Haven a legacy after you have taken care of your loved ones, why not ask us for a copy of our will writing worksheet to help you plan what to include before visiting your solicitor.

Just call Wendy on **01444 470136**
or e-mail **wendy@safehaven4donkeys.org**

Free Will

If you are having difficulty getting out to see a solicitor, we are now partnered with Bequeathed, who offer free Wills and valuable advice. Their simple and convenient service allows you to make the right Will for you in the way that best suits you – online, face to face or over the phone. You will be asked if you would like to leave a legacy to Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land but there is absolutely no obligation to do so.

To find out more:
visit **www.bequeathed.org/p/safehaven4donkeys**
or call **020 8191 0587**.

DATA PROTECTION & PRIVACY

In carrying out our day to day activities Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land processes and stores personal information relating to our supporters and we are therefore required to adhere to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation and other relevant Acts and Regulations. We take our responsibilities very seriously and we ensure the personal information we obtain is held, used, transferred and otherwise processed in accordance with that Regulation and all other applicable data protection laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the Privacy and Electronic Communication Regulations.

Personal information we might collect includes your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, date of birth, whether you are a tax payer (for Gift Aid purposes), bank account details if you set up a regular payment, donations you have made or events in which you have participated. On occasion, we may need to look up your telephone number in the phone book to contact you regarding a donation you have made – we would then store this data in our database in case it is needed for the same purpose in the future.

We collect this data for purposes including the processing of any donation made by you, to provide you with any products or information you have requested or for internal record keeping/accounting/administration. Having supported us, under the “legitimate interest” condition for processing data we believe that you would like to receive our quarterly newsletter and occasional additional appeals or updates on our work and so we will also use your details for this purpose.

If you use your credit or debit card to donate to us, buy something or pay online or over the phone, we will ensure that this is done securely and in accordance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard. All card details and validation codes are securely destroyed once the payment or donation has been processed. Other information will be held as long as is reasonably necessary to allow us to continue to communicate with you or to comply with relevant legislation. For example, the HMRC require Gift Aid declarations to be retained indefinitely.

We will not sell, share or swap your information with any third parties unless required to do so for legal reasons (for example to the police). We do send the names and addresses of our supporters to the printers who produce our quarterly newsletter. They also comply with the General Data Protection Regulation and use your details solely for the purpose of mailing the newsletter. They do not retain the data or use it for any other purpose.

It is your choice on the type of communications and information you receive about our charity and the ways in which you can get involved. You can change your mind at any time by contacting us by post, e-mail or phone using the contact details on page two of this newsletter. If you have a complaint about how your data is processed, please contact us in the first instance. If we cannot resolve the situation, you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office. You also have the right to request copies of any data held about you and to request rectification of any inaccuracies.

Thank you

We are grateful to each and every one of you for your support as without you there would be no Safe Haven. We would like to especially thank:

Shirley and Gerry for donating over £10,000 to buy a new ultrasound machine for Dr Rakan to use in the West Bank. This machine is making a difference to the lives of hundreds of animals every month and we are very grateful.

Adam Durbaba for taking part in this year's London Marathon, raising over £8,000!



Cove B&B in Pentewan, Cornwall for raising £860.

Fiona Mackey for all her hard work making and selling marmalade – over the years she has raised thousands of pounds and we thank her and wish her a happy “retirement”.

Pat Clark for raising £150 from a tabletop sale.



Jackie, Cliffe and Karen for raising £133 from a car boot sale.

And finally...

We are delighted to announce that Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land is one of the recipients of a 40th Anniversary Award from the Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust.

We'd like to wish The Trust a very Happy 40th Anniversary and to thank them for everything they do for animals. We look forward to continuing to work with them to make the world a better place for donkeys.

